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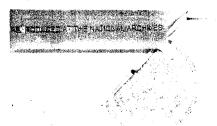
E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: FFOR, AF, US SUPJECT: REVIEW OF U.S. POLICY TOWARD AFCHARISTAN

REF: KAPUL 1898 AND A-12

FOR AMEASSADOR

1. WE HAVE EXAMINED WITH INTEREST RESULTS OF MISSION'S RE-VIEW OF U.S. POLICY TOWARD AFGHONISTAN (REFTEL), ALONG WITH REPORT OF REVIEW GROUP. WE COMMEND YOUR THOROUGH EFFORTS, PARTICULARLY MISSION'S OPENNESS IN INVOLVING ALL ELEMENTS OF COUNTRY TEAM AND INCLUSION OF DISSENTING VIEWS. YOUR REVIEW IS TIMELY BOTH IN TERMS OF NEW REQUIREMENT FOR ANNUAL U.S. FOREIGN POLICY ASSESSMENT (FAM 212), AND IN VIEW RECENT POLITICAL EVOLUTION UNDER DAOUD COVERNMENT. ENDORSE MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS OF YOUR REVIEW, WHICH WE NOTE REMAIN IN BASIC ACCORD WITH 1969 NSC/IG POLICY PAPER ON AFGHANISTAN. DEPT COMMENT FOLLOWS ON SELECTED PORTIONS OF YOUR POLICY REVIEW MESSAGE AND REVIEW GROUP'S PAPER.

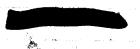
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2. WE AGREE THAT PASIC U.S. INTERESTS IN AFGHANISTAN RE-MAIN UNCHANGED BY ADVENT OF DAGUE. USB INTERESTS THERE CONTINUE TO BE INTERVOVEN WITH OUR INTERESTS IN HROMOTING PEACE, STABILITY AND COOPERATION AMONG MATIONS OF REGION,

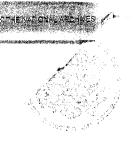
PARTICULARLY NEIGHBORING IR AN AND PAKISTAN. TO EXTENT THAT AFGHANISTAN REMAINS TABLE, INDEPENDENT AND MON-ALIGNED, US POLICY INTERESTS IN THE REGION ARE WELL SERVED. AN AFGHANISTAN REGARDED BY OTHER COUNTRIES IN AREA AS A THREAT - EITHER BY ITS ON WINTEMPERATE ACTIONS OR THROUGH DOMINATION BY ANOTHER POWER - WOULD PE DETRIMENTAL TO OUR POLICY GOALS IN THE REGION.

- YOUR REVIEW NOTES THAT GOA RECOGNIZES IMPORTANCE OF USG PRESENCE IN COUNTRY AS PRIMARILY POLITICAL. WHILE OUR PRESENCE IS PRIMARILY IN FORM OF DEVELOPMENTAL ASSISTANCE. WE AGREE THAT OUR ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS MUST CONTINUE TO BE PASED ON THEIR OWN MERITS. WE DO NOT REPEAT NOT PERCEIVE PRESENT OR FUTURE GROUNDS WHEREIN POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS WOULD LEAD US TO APPROVE UNSCUED DEVELOPMENTAL PROJECTS. AT SAME TIME WORLDWIDE CONSTRAINTS ON US ASSISTANCE COULD INHIBIT ADOPTION OF OTHERWISE DESIRABLE PROJECTS FROM BOTH POLITICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL VIEWFOINTS. IN THIS REGARD. RESERBORSEAREVIEW GROUVIJS RECOMMENDATIONS ON INCREASING EFFECTIVENESS OF USC ASSISTANCE TOWARD PROGRAMS WITH BROAD DEVELOPMENTAL PENEFITS FOR THE POOREST MAJORITY. WE ALSO CONCUR IN MISSION'S INTENT TO UNDERTAKE REVIEW AT THIS TIME OF ALL US PROGRAM ARR PROJECT ACTIVITIES, IN CONTEXT OF TOTAL US EFFORT IN COUNTRY.
- 4. DEVELOPMENT OF MORE COLLABORATIVE STYLE WITH GOA SHOULD HELP INSURE THAT ASSI TANCE PROGRAMS ARE AFVHAN-PROPOSED AND HAVE FULLEST AFGHAN SUPPORT. IN THIS REGARD, GOA REQUEST FOR CONTINUED US ASSISTANCE IN HELMAND SHOULD BE HANDLED IN WAY THAT INSURES AFGHANS ARE OUT IN FRONT IN EVERY PHASE OF REVIEW, AND IN INITIATION OF ANY PROPOSED NEW ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING CURRYGE ASSESSMENT.
- 5. CONCERNING PROGRAMS OTHER THAN USAID, PEACE CORPS APPROACH TO DEALING WITH GCA SHOULD PARALLNZ THAT OF AID IN SIYLE. WE NOTE THAT CERTAIN PC PROGRAMS HAVE PEEN

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STYMIED, OWING PARTLY TO EJEFERENCES AND POLICIES OF NEW FERSONNEL IN GOA. CAREFUL TAILORING OF PC PROGRAMS IN AREAS OF PRIORITY TO POIGOA AND USG WILL PE NECESSARY AS WE ATTEMPT TO MEET OPJECTIEG OF BOTH OUR COUNTRIES. REMAP, WE CONCUR THAT PROGRAM SHOULD CONTINUE AT APOUT PRESENT LEVEL, SUBJECT TO GOA DESIRES AND NORLOWIDE MAP PRIORITIES AND FUNDING. WE VIEW USIS ROGRAMMING AT OR NEAR PRESENT LEVEL AS AFOUT RIGHT FOR AFGHANISTAN. ANY NEW RESTRICTIONS ON USG CULTURAL, EDUCATIONAL OR INFORMATIONAL PROGRAMS, IF POINTED AT U.S. AND NOT OTHERS, WOULD PROPABLY INDICATE OVERALL SHIFT IN GOA POLICY AND ATTITUDE TOWARD TOTAL US PRESENCE WHICH MIGHT NECESSITATE GENERAL REVIEW OF POLICY TOWARD COUNTRY.

6. ON FOREIGN POLICY WE ARE IN VENERAL AGREEMENT WITH REFTEL RECOMMENDATION TO CONTINUE LINE WE HAVE TAKEN IN PAST TO PROMOTE IMPROVED AFGHAN RELATIONYRWITH NEIGHEORING PAKISTAN AND IRAN. ON PUSHTUNISTAN, WE SHOULD CONTINUE TO STAY OUT OF MIDDLE, WHILE OFSERVING OPTION TO TAKE MORE

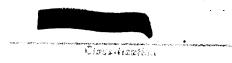
ACTIVE ROLE IF CIRCUMSTANCES WARRANT, SUCH AS THREAT TO PAKISTAN'S INTERNAL STABILITY OR OF MORE ADVENTURIST AFGHAN POLICY. AT SAME TIME, WE SHOULD CONTINUE TO MAKE KNOWN OUR COMMITMENT TO INTEGRITY OF PAKISTAN AND DESIRE FOR PEACEFUL RESOLUTION THIS PROPLEM.

7. FINALLY, DEPARTMENT ENDORSES MISSION'S INCREASED EFFORTS TOWARD IMPROVED UNDERSTANDING BY AMERICANS OF AFGHAN LANGUAGE AND CHLTURE

AND OTHER MEASURES TO DECREASE "GHETTO MENTALITY" OF AMERICAN COMMUNITY IN KAPUL. WE AGREE SUCH MOVES WILL ENHANCE AMERICAN PRESENCE AND FOREIGN POLICY OBJECTIVES IN AFGHANISTAN. KISSINGER

#GARBLED PORTION:

"WE ENDORSE REVIEW GROUP'S RECOMMENDATIONS ON INCREASING..."



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